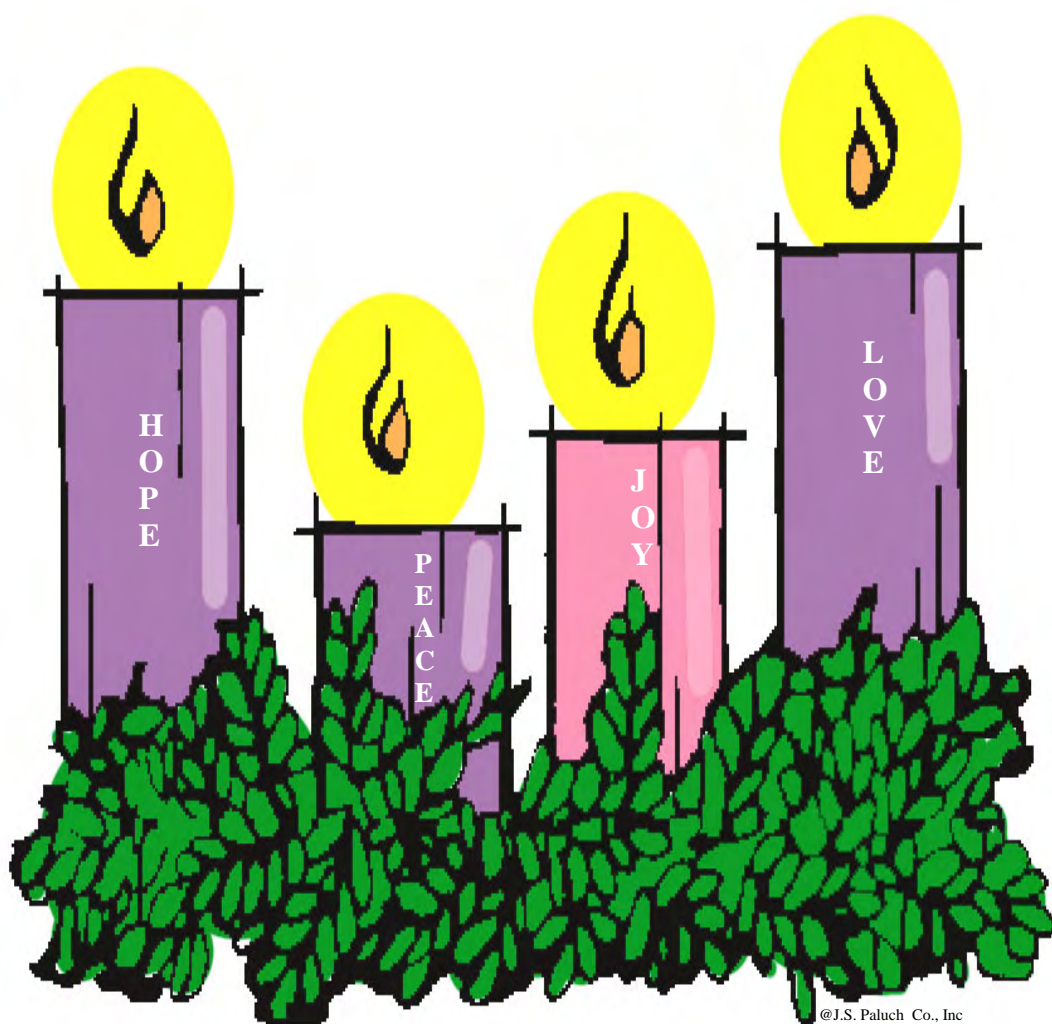


St. Cletus Canticle

December 21, 2008

Fourth Sunday of Advent



@J.S. Paluch Co., Inc

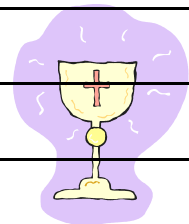
600 West 55th Street • La Grange, Illinois 60525 • 708-352-6209 • www.stcletusparish.com



**All are welcome. Handicapped parking is located in front of church.
Personal hearing devices are available from the ushers/greeters.**

Mass Intentions for the Week of December 22 - December 28, 2008

Day	Time	Intention
Monday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Karen Marie Wilson, Abe Katzmarek
Tuesday	8:00am	Bob Battle, Frank Wojcik, Kadlec Family, Melvin Charlier, Barbara Lezak, Frank Tubbessing, Jonni Patterson
Christmas Eve Wednesday	<i>Schedule on page 5</i>	ALL MASSES FOR OUR PARISH PRIESTS' INTENTIONS
Christmas Day Thursday	<i>Schedule on page 5</i>	ALL MASSES FOR OUR PARISH PRIESTS' INTENTIONS
Friday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Dan Rosko, Elsie Wagner, Mary Grace Parisi, Stefan Slobidnik, Constanino DeBartolo
Saturday	8:00am 5:00pm	Rev. John Spitkovski, Virginia Anderson Jozef Slowik, Angelo Cumbo, Robert Suchy, Helen Letrich
Sunday	7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	Howard Madsen, Florence Rossi, Joseph Rossi, Christina Barrios Special Intention for Hackett Family, John Burns, Pauline Jadro Rose Mary Ptak, Karen M. Wilson, Virginia Shepler, Marie Woods Francis Herzog, Kenneth Herzog, Timothy Benrus, Ray Tobolski, Anthony & Kathleen Regalado, Frank & Lottie Mendrala, Pavlik & McCarney Families Hispanic Priests' Intentions



AUXILIARY MINISTER SCHEDULE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 27/28

	5:00 PM	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
SM	Heyes, S.	Swindall, V.	Micek, J.	Benkert, K.	Bolton, P.
LR	Okkema, P. Augustine, E.	Chlapecka, T.	Szabelski, R. DalPorto, C.	McGann, B.	Resiel, T. Bolton, W.
B2	Heyes, S.	Swindall, V.	Micek, J.	Benkert, K.	Bolton, P.
B3	Saban, J.	Swindall, T.	Borsilli, H.	Wehrmeister, R.	Ficaro, J.
B4	Lenz, R.	Thornton, W.	Biesadecki, B.	Williams, A. M.	Gebka, M. L.
B5	Sheridan, E.	Thornton, M.	DalPorto, K.	Williams, A.	Pristo, B.
B6	Malcak, L.	Ward, L.	Saban, J.	Thuma, M.	Provan, K.
C1	Okkema, A.		Kensek, M.	Horak, V.	Brannigan, R.
C2	Heyes, M.		Nicosia, C.	Benkert, J.	Pavlik, L.
C3	Bamberger, M.		Ciraulo, S.	Schump, C.	Mangahas, A.
C4	Loch, L.		Biesadecki, C.	Nolan, J.	Maday, J.
C5	Reichl, M.		Stopka, S.	Haggerty, F.	Herzog, T.
C6	Boyer, K.		Walsh, M. J.	McGann, K.	Provan, J.
Altar Servers	Kreck, J. Patterson, M. Patterson, S.	Temple, R. Temple, P. Rodriguez, A.	Jacobs, A. Chervinko, J. Griffin, H.	McLaughlin, C. McLaughlin, E. Oboikovitz, C.	Rincon, C. Findley, T. Bowie, D.



Wedding Banns

*Katelyn Shumowsky
&
Michael Dodoer*

**Please pray for those who
have died and their families...**



Margaret A. Kenney.
Mother of Donna Reigle



Rosemary Finek.
Mother of Jo Ellen Perry
and Barbara Pankow



**The child to be born will be called
holy, the Son of God.**

Thank you so much for serving our parish as an Altar Server, Lector, Extraordinary Minister of Communion or usher. Your skills and training are so valuable and we count on you and look for you at Mass.

Paulette Bolton
Director of Liturgy

NOTES FROM FATHER BOB...



Fourth Sunday of Advent

King David wants to mark a new stage in his reign. His wars have ended, his enemies have been subdued, his kingdom is secure, his palace is built. A new era of peace and prosperity beckons, and David seeks to commemorate this, to show the permanence of his achievements and power, by constructing a suitable dwelling place for God. This is something very natural – an act of recognition of God, but also an expression of David's own position, power and accomplishments.

Perhaps in our own way, we can have something of David's mixed motives in our relationship with God. There can be times when we consciously do things for God. It might be a major life-decision or a small act of kindness or self-sacrifice. Mixed up in our selfishness and dedication can be a little of what David felt: a certain self-conscious pride in what we are doing, perhaps a desire to be noticed and admired by others, or at least to make ourselves seem worthy in our own eyes, a feeling that we are giving God something over and above what might be expected. It can be as if, somehow, we can make God grateful to us, perhaps even get God to realize that he owes us something.

The Lord's reply to David should snap us out of such self-delusion. Whatever David thinks he is doing for God, God reminds David of all the great things he has done for him and for the people of Israel. All things come from him, and David would be nothing without him. He reminds David how utterly dependent he is on God's graciousness – not just in the present and in the past, but also stretching right out into the future. This is also a salutary reminder to us of just how much we depend on God's goodness – and that we can never give anything to God which he has not first given to us. We cannot earn or deserve, let alone coerce his love. Anything we do for God is always a response – and a very inadequate one – to the greatness of God's love for us in the first place.

There is a marked distinction between David and Mary. Mary is under no illusions about her own importance. Far from having David's brash confidence in approaching God, Mary is disturbed, confused; she needs to be reassured that there is no need to fear. In saying she is a virgin; Mary is acknowledging her own emptiness, her inability to do what God is asking of her on her own. It is only by the power of God himself that Mary is able to allow God to achieve his purposes. Mary's humble acquiescence is in stark contrast to David's proud self-confidence.

It is through Mary that God finally builds himself a home, a dwelling-place among his people. He lives not in a house of wood or stone, but in a womb of flesh and blood, a heart full of love. As we stand on the threshold of another celebration of God's coming into our world at Christmas, like Mary, we need to listen to the voice of God and acknowledge our own emptiness and dependence on God, but like her, trustingly give our "yes" to God. Like Mary, we too can say: "I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let what you have said be done unto me." It is when we seek God's will, not our own, that God really can come and make his home in us. And through our lives, his love can then become real – in the flesh – in the world through us. That is God's invitation and challenge to us. As individuals and a Church, we can have confidence not in our own abilities and talents but in God's faithfulness and power. For nothing is impossible to God.

Last Chance for Confession before Christmas

In order to accommodate those who are unable to come out for confession in the evening we will be hearing confessions after the 8:00 am Mass (tomorrow) Monday December 22, 2008 until 9:30 am. If you have not had a chance to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for Christmas please try to come out and receive God's forgiveness.

New Additions to our Church Niches and St. Francis Shrine

You will notice a few additions to our church niches and St. Francis shrine areas. Through the generosity of a donor we have been able to improve the lighting in all these areas. We have also moved Our Lady of Guadalupe to the front niche on the Tabernacle side of the church. The back niche on this side of the church now holds our American flag, a marble Dove of Peace and is dedicated to all the men and women who have served or are serving our country in the military in an effort to bring peace to our world. The front niche on the Holy Family side of the church now holds a wall frieze of the Resurrected Christ. The back niche on this side of the church now holds the Papal flag, a picture of St. Paul for the year of St. Paul, and a book for prayer intentions. All niches will eventually have their own candle stands for prayer intentions.

*Advent Blessings,
Father Bob*



Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2008

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT—Dawn's glorious light

Today we name the Messiah "O Radiant Dawn, Sun of Justice, Splendor of Eternal Light!" Anyone whose morning commute regularly includes a sunrise or who has contrived to rise early for the express purpose of watching the sun come up knows why primitive peoples and even our oh-so-sophisticated selves find godliness in a sunrise. At the Easter Vigil we sang "May the Morning Star which never sets find this flame still burning!" While Christmas lights have been shining for weeks from homes and lampposts, today we can think of them explicitly as a reminder of God's gift of Light to the waiting world. We remember Gerard Manley Hopkins' wonderful "Oh!" at this great renewal: "Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs / Because the Holy Ghost over the bent / World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings."

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

"O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death."

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22

ADVENT WEEKDAY - King of the hill

Remember when we were kids and we used to play king of the hill? It was an important part of our social learning that the strongest among us would dominate and rise to positions of power. The same game would be played out in world politics as nations rose and fell throughout the 20th century. The story of Christmas reminds us that Jesus is the world's only real superpower, though the nations play their games of supremacy for a time. History reduces all empires to dust, but the reign of God endures forever.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56

"O King of all the nations, the only joy of every human heart; O Keystone of the mighty arch of man, come and save the creature you fashioned from the dust."

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23

ADVENT WEEKDAY - What's your heart's desire?

We end our observance of the O Antiphons today with praise for Emmanuel (God-with-us), the fulfillment of our heart's desire, our savior. The one who is to come satisfies all of our greatest longings. We need look no further. All our fretting and straining for answers and signs comes to an end with the birth of Christ. Are we ready for such good news? Can we let go of all the things we often think will bring us happiness—companionship, money, recognition, power, beauty, health—and embrace the simple, searing gift of love?

TODAY'S READINGS: Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66

"O Emmanuel, king and lawgiver, desire of the nations, Savior of all people, come and set us free, Lord our God."

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

ADVENT WEEKDAY - Another child is born

It is no accident that we remember the birth of John the Baptist on the day before we commemorate the birth of Jesus. John represents the culmination of Jewish prophetic hope for the Messiah, and his birth offers a fitting climax to the Advent season. John's father Zechariah sings praises on the occasion of John's birth. Zechariah's song, or canticle (Luke 1:68-79), is

treasured and recited daily during the morning prayer of the church's Liturgy of the Hours. It serves as a lovely closing refrain to the Advent season.

TODAY'S READINGS: Morning: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Luke 1:67-79 "And you, child . . . will go before the Lord to prepare his ways . . ."

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - So this is Christmas!

Today we celebrate the day God entered God's own creation by becoming human. How can we authentically honor this day? One way is to notice and truly relish our own experience of being human. So often we hurry through the hours, heedless of the many sensations to be enjoyed. This Christmas may we wake up appreciating the delicious warmth of our beds; our hot shower; our holiday meals; and give our undivided attention to the words and music of Christmas. In other words, may we be childlike. At the end of the day we will know something of what Emily Dickinson meant when she wrote, "To live is so startling it leaves little time for anything else."

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18

"To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord."

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

FEAST OF STEPHEN, FIRST MARTYR - Telling the truth

St. Stephen's Day is not celebrated on the day after Christmas in all the Christian world. In some places it is marked on December 27 or January 9. That the two days are juxtaposed on our calendar may be a reminder that just as the naked cross looms above the empty tomb, so also its shadow falls across the crib—Jesus' and our own. We are reminded that it is into *human* experience that the Christ is born, an experience that knows death, violence, and cruelty but a humanity also capable of love so true as to lay down life for a friend or for faith. In a way Saint Stephen delivers us from sinking into either post-Christmas ennui or exchange-this-for-something-I-really-want overindulgence. We have celebrated God breaking into and taking up residence in our all-too-real world, and for so great a love there is a great price.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22

"While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.'"

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

FEAST OF JOHN, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST - The joy is in the sharing

When we receive a piece of news—good or bad—often our first impulse is to think, "I can't wait to tell . . .!" That is because we are social creatures, hardwired to live in community with other people, sharing our sorrows and our joys. Moreover, sharing has mathematical properties: It divides and multiplies. When we share bad news our burden is lessened, and when we share good news our happiness increases a hundredfold. Of course the reverse is also true. When we don't have someone with whom to share our stories, sorrows increase and joys are diminished. As Mother Theresa observed, "Loneliness is the most terrible poverty." Look around. Whom do you see that is lonely? What will you do now?

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8

"We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete."

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Contributors: Father Paul Boudreau, Alice Camille, Daniel Grippo, Father Larry Janowski, Ann O'Connor, Sean Reynolds, Joel Schorn, and Patrice J. Tuohy

***CHRISTMAS EVE/CHRISTMAS DAY
NEW YEAR'S EVE/NEW YEAR'S DAY
MASS SCHEDULE
2008***

CHRISTMAS EVE:

2:00PM...CHURCH
2:15PM...MORRISSEY HALL
3:30PM...CHURCH
3:45PM...MORRISSEY HALL
5:30PM...CHURCH
5:45PM...MORRISSEY HALL
7:00PM...CHURCH-SPANISH
10:30PM...CHURCH

CHRISTMAS DAY:

7:00AM...CHURCH
8:00AM...CHURCH
9:30AM...CHURCH
11:00AM...CHURCH
11:30AM...MORRISSEY HALL

**ACCOMPANIMENT:**

VOCALIST/PIANO
VOCALIST/PIANO
CHILDREN'S CHOIR
VOCALIST/PIANO
CHAMBER ENSEMBLE
VOCALIST/PIANO

CHANCEL CHOIR

ACCOMPANIMENT:

TRADITIONAL (NO MUSIC)
VOCALIST/ORGAN
CHANCEL CHOIR
CONTEMPORARY CHOIR
VOCALIST/PIANO

NEW YEAR'S EVE:

4:00PM...CHURCH
5:30PM...CHURCH
7:00PM...CHURCH-SPANISH

NEW YEAR'S DAY:

6:30AM.....CHURCH
8:00AM.....CHURCH

**ATTENTION: LECTORS & EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION**

Your help is needed at some of the Christmas and New Years' Masses. Please stop in the Minister's room and check the schedules and sign up if you are able. We appreciate any assistance you can give. Thank you.

Paulette Bolton
Director of Liturgy

The **Christmas Food Baskets** will be distributed to our local recipients on Sunday of this weekend. If you took a "Food Basket" tag from the Giving Tree, please bring your basket to **Morrissey Hall on Sunday, December 21, between 7:30 AM and 11:00 AM**. Remember to securely attach your tag to the basket, so we know the size of the family for which it is intended. Thanks for helping make the holidays brighter for a needy family in our community!

Mary Beth Ford
Director of Social Concerns

On Sunday, December 7, Fr. Bob and Deacon Jesús, presided at a special Advent Liturgy for our 7th & 8th Grade Religious Education students and their families in Morrissey Hall. The students and families made an Advent candle and discussed ways of bringing peace and hope into their families, schools, and places of business during the Liturgy of the Word. As the Season of Advent progressed, the families have included prayers for joy and love. We began our celebration of Advent, Rejoicing in Hope, with one another.

Pat Kahl

Director of Religious Education



PEACE



H
O
P
E



LOVE



J
O
Y



Cardinal Corner

News from the St. Cletus School Board

Faith, Family, *Future*



Congratulations to our Honor Roll students

St. Cletus School announced the First Quarter Honor Roll recently.

High honors:

8th graders Edward Ashe, Mary Figura, Natalie Gacek, Kathryn Zebus

7th graders Katelyn Cahill, Stephen Hubona, Matt Mrazek, Joseph Nelson

Honors:

8th graders Kristen Collins, Meghan Flannery, Andrea Goethals, Patrick Kelley, Brendan Kelly, Anne Kennedy, Kathleen Lawler, Cecilia Luxem, Sarah Patterson

7th graders John Balch, Kristen Bogolin, Meghan Caplice, Gino Cavalieri, Thomas Clarke, Julia Condotti, Meagan Finucane, Margaret Franklin, Madeline Grodek, Michael Grodek, Daniel Hurley, Andrew Jacobs, Camille Lang, John Lawler, Michael Lombardo, Amber Loveshe, Miles McAtee, Michael McGrath, Evan McLaughlin, Meghan Murphy, Carly Oboikovitz, Sabrina Pusatera, Dennis Reisel, Lucy Rogan, Natalie Ruffner, Patrick Temple, Elise Tomasian, Kristen Wuerl.

Graduate news

Jonathan Nelson was recently a team leader for the Nazareth Academy Kairos-19 retreat. Jon was also recently named to the Illinois High School Coaches Association All State Academic Team. Congratulations!

St. Cletus graduates and parishioners recently made the honor roll at local Catholic High Schools.

Nazareth Academy First Quarter Honor Roll:

A Honor Roll: St. Cletus graduates Zachary Basile, Steve DalPorto, Timothy Heuer, James Kennedy, Frank Laghi, Michael Moles, Jonathan Nelson, Colin Schwendt, Jaclyn Baker, Megan Baro, Mary Shannon, Kevin Baro, John Flach, Michael Gray, Cassandra Levitske, Colleen McCollom, Andrew Bartucci and parishioners Brooke Borowiak, Kyle Hullihan, Scott Patterson.

B Honor Roll: St. Cletus graduate Amanda O'Shea and parishioner Daniel Wulff.

Fenwick High School Marking Period 1 Honor Roll:

First Honors: St. Cletus graduates Patrick Heslin, Edward Bruce, Matthew Philbin, Kelsey Kelliher, Angelo Cavalieri, Kathleen Kages and parishioners Scott Green, Julie Comfort.

Second Honors: St. Cletus graduates Martin Bruce, Brian Franklin and parishioner Liam McDonnell.

CASH AND CARRY FOR MANNA THIS WEEKEND

MANNA will be available after all Masses in the church vestibule **THIS WEEKEND** December 20/21. MANNA will also be available after school all Fridays in December in the school lobby. **The holidays are upon us! Please take advantage of Manna this holiday season—it helps the school and also goes towards your tuition!** Any questions or concerns, please call Erin Rhoads (708) 588-0510 or Leslie Doherty (708) 482-0257.

DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

Our first parish-wide email went out the first week of December. If you didn't receive it, we might not have your email address. You can submit your email address by following a link on the home page of our website.

Chris Wagner
Director of Technology

REJOICE

Isaiah proclaims truly good news to us. God's coming brings not sadness, guilt, fear, wrath, or condemnation. No, God's coming is a source of comfort and joy. Saying it once is not enough, for today's readings are full of joy. Mary's Magnificat substitutes for our psalm today, and our second reading encourages us to rejoice, to give thanks and praise. This is the root meaning of the Greek word for Eucharist. We are urged to rejoice and give thanks, because the coming of the Lord brings joy, healing, liberty, release, vindication. It makes the very earth spring up with new life! Good tidings!

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The child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.
-Luke 1:35



platki is available at the rectory office during regular business hours.
 A donation of \$3 is requested.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Children of the parish are somewhat focused on Santa Claus these days, who is keeping an eye on who's naughty and nice. Santa Claus, with his heavenly patron Saint Nicholas, has been more or less in charge of gift-giving to American children for a hundred years or so. In other places, perhaps more attentive to our Christian tradition, there are different gift-bearers. In Greece, Saint Basil delivers the presents on his feast day, December 31, and makes sure everyone is sprinkled with holy water. The Baby Jesus is in charge elsewhere, called the *Christkind* in Austria and Belgium, *El Niño Jesús* in Columbia, and *Le Petit Jesus* in France, where he shares his duties with *Père Noël*. In the Czech Republic almost everyone is atheist, but *Je_íšek*, the infant Jesus, brings gifts to one and all. In Poland the "Star Man" is said to bring the gifts, although often he turns out to be the village priest in disguise. Saint Nicholas, not his Americanized cousin, is the giver in Holland, where he wears a bishop's miter, and in Russia, where he wears a bishop's crown. Soviet Russia tried to dethrone Saint Nicholas and promote Grandfather Frost, but no one was much fooled by this attempt to squeeze religion out of Christ's birth. One country has a saintly woman in charge of the gifts, Saint Lucy, honored in Sweden on December 13, when children serve their parents breakfast in bed, and others awake to news that they have been nominated for a Nobel Prize. Some children have a second round of gifts on Epiphany, when the magi assume the gift-giving duties. In general, the gifts of Christmas are simple pleasures, not great heaps of treasures. Once upon a time, a new pair of socks or an orange was enough for us. No matter what gifts we receive, all of them are to point us to the true gift, and the true giver.

—Rev. James Field, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

The word "Bethlehem" means "the house of bread." The breaking of the bread is a sign of charity, unity and friendship. Religious family customs bring the truths of faith into the home. One of these beautiful Christmas Eve customs is the Christmas Wafer. With a simple prayer for God's grace and the welfare of all members of the family, those present as well as those who are absent, the head of the house breaks the wafer and distributes it, one piece to each person at the table. The spiritual lesson is this age-old custom is that the unity of the family is grounded in God's love for us. May you experience unity and love through this simple celebration.



Please remember our sick in your prayers: Dr. Karen Chermel, Denise Kuchta, Jerry Pietras, Anna Ciszek, Blasé Cinquegrani, Trudy Pacanowski, Roberta Zeman, James Prucha, Pauline Cuttill, Emma Fontana, Mark Ronchetti, Adrienne Welenc, Kathryn Super-Wilson, John Burke, Larry Rincon, Joseph Fajdich, Dorothy O'Neill, Betty Niwa, Donal Fox, Mary Barnish, Elaine Bianco, Freda Guide, Leslie Imholt, Ryan Cosgrove, Ann Fahey, Joan Klein, Sheila Nash, Rosemary Sylvester, Rose Olferchek, Steve Zeman, Sister Arlene Gibson, Zach Sperka, Marguerite May, Mike Patzelt, Rita D'Onofrio, Marilyn Matesevac, Hunter Peters, Cacilia Ziegler, Ruth Calandriello, Ann Marie Nabor, Nadine Pankow, Patty Johnson, Agnes Suennen, Joseph Johnson, Stephanie Yakowicz, Gail Pankow-Locker, Josie Spoto, Larry Wojnar, Louise Jaunich, Frank Werner, Agnes Olszowka, Agustin Jaso, Marie Krolecki, Mary O'Rourke, Debbie Broz and Scott May. Also pray for our parishioners who are in nursing homes or are homebound unable to attend Mass. Please know we pray daily for our sick.

STEWARDSHIP

"Do not be afraid, Mary."- Luke 1:30

It can be a little scary to do as God asks - to give Him the first fruits of our time, talent and treasure. But the comforting words the angel spoke to Mary can comfort us, too. When we dedicate ourselves to being good Christian stewards - *"Do not be afraid."*

Weekly Giving Summary

Sunday Collection, December 14\$ 27,935
Last Year..... 24,487

Total Collection:
Year-to-Date.....\$643,116
Previous Year-to-Date..... 663,714

Needed for Budget thru 12/14/08.....\$679,800

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?

IGNORANCE AND MISINFORMATION

It's not that we don't know anything or that we are stupid or that we just easily swallow every bit of information we receive about the Muslims. On the contrary, some of us, in fact, may know a lot, some a little, and some perhaps are not certain with the information they've learned. The question raised in the earlier segment may be reiterated here: How much or from where or through whom do we know about Muslims?

Several scholars, theologians and historians nowadays react with doubt to the anecdotal ideas constantly fed to us by the media. They caution us from making impulsive generalizations based on these reports. Apart from this, they add that even the history of Islam that we learned from school or books may be responsible in shaping our religious sentiments and attitudes about Islam in a less than positive way. Thus, it is urgent for us to revisit and evaluate this fundamental knowledge and understanding of Muslims.

Join us as we dig further into this topic. (V.I.S.3 2008).

Office for Ecumenical Interreligious affairs - Archdiocese of Chicago
P.O. Box 1979, Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

PLEASE NOTE

...the Rectory Office will be closed on Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24 and re-open at 9:00am Friday, December 26. On Wednesday, New Year's Eve, the office will close at 12 Noon and will re-open on Friday, January 2, 2009. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Robert Clark
Pastor

Rev. Edgar Rodriguez
Associate Pastor

Rev. Charles Watkins
Associate Pastor

Rev. Charles Gallagher
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Mr. Jesús and Silvia Casas
Deacon Couple

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Director of Hispanic Ministry
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Director of Youth Ministry
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Nora Gardner
Rectory Receptionist
Bobbie Kallal
Administrative Assistant
Michele O'Brien
Director of Financial Operations
(708) 352-6209

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pastor - Rev. Robert Clark • Associate Pastor - Rev. Edgar Rodriguez • Associate Pastor - Rev. Charles Watkins

Co-Chairpersons: Anne Babirak, Tom Finucane
Recording Secretary: Sue Schiller

Vice - Chairperson: Rita Mayer
Corresponding Secretary: Lori Ashe

Worship Ministry: Sue Schiller, Jackie Wiley

Finance Liaison: Brian Kapusta

Parish Representative: Joe Bamberger, Lori Ashe

Youth Ministry: Barb Mitchell, Rita Mayer

Education Ministry: Anne Babirak, (School)
Sharon Gleich (Religious Education)

Pastoral Care Ministry:
C. Rodger Brown, Xavier Polanski

Development Ministry: Maggie Nelson, Tom Finucane

Staff Representative: Jolene Hillgoth

Hispanic Ministry: Tim McCormick, Marynez Llanes,
Ignacio Saavedra

Social Concerns Ministry: Maureen Soldat,
Jim Ryva

Technology Representative: Julie Lenz

MASSES

Saturday Evening: 5:00pm

**Sunday: 7:00am, 8:00am, 9:30am,
11:00am, 6:00pm (Spanish)**

Weekdays: Mon., thru Sat., 8:00am

Evening before Holy Day: 7:00pm

Holy Day: 6:30am, 8:00am

BAPTISMS

1st & 3rd Sunday of the month at 1:00pm. Parents must be registered parishioners and attend the Baptism Preparation Class. Please make arrangements by calling the Rectory office (352-6209)

WEDDINGS

Dates and times are reserved for registered parishioners. Initial arrangements must be completed five months in advance of the wedding date.

HOME/HOSPITAL VISITATION AND COMMUNION CALLS

Please contact the Ministry of Care office (215-5407).

CONFESSIONS

Confessions every Saturday of the month 4:15-4:45pm.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND BENEDICTION

1st Monday of the Month immediately following the 8:00am Mass with Benediction at 6:45pm.

BULLETIN ARTICLES

The deadline for Canticle article submission is 5:00pm Friday, **one full week** prior to Sunday's publication. Articles may be submitted electronically to canticle@stcletusparish.com.